



NEWS RELEASE

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APRIL 19, 2006

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

PROJECT CEASEFIRE

GRANDVIEW MAN WHO SHOT STATE TROOPER PLEADS GUILTY TO POSSESSING MOLOTOV COCKTAILS

KANSAS CITY, Mo. – Bradley J. Schlozman, United States Attorney for the Western District of Missouri, announced that a Grandview, Mo., man pleaded guilty in federal court today to illegally possessing Molotov cocktails. Today's guilty plea, Schlozman said, is part of Project Ceasefire, the district's ongoing anti-crime initiative.

Tommy Ray Rollins, Jr., 26, of Grandview, pleaded guilty before U.S. District Judge Howard F. Sachs this afternoon to the charge contained in a Nov. 15, 2005, federal indictment.

By pleading guilty today, **Rollins** admitted that he illegally possessed two fully assembled, home-made Molotov cocktails on May 28, 2005. The Molotov cocktails were made from bottles, gasoline and cloth rags.

Law enforcement officers initially contacted **Rollins** when they attempted to conduct a routine traffic stop on his vehicle on Interstate 470 in Lee's Summit. **Rollins** shot a Missouri State Highway Patrol trooper nine times then fled to an area pool hall, where he was ultimately arrested. Investigators later recovered the firearm used in the shooting along with the Molotov cocktails in a field near 34th Street and Sioux Court in Independence, Mo.

Under federal statutes, **Rollins** could be subject to a sentence of up to 10 years in federal prison without parole, plus a fine up to \$250,000. A sentencing hearing will be scheduled after the completion of a presentence investigation by the United States Probation Office.

This case is being prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorney Rudolph R. Rhodes, IV. It was investigated by the Independence, Mo., Police Department, the Missouri State Highway Patrol, the Lee's Summit, Mo., Police Department and the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives.

Project Ceasefire

Project Ceasefire, launched in October 1999, is a cooperative initiative by federal and local law enforcement and the Kansas City Crime Commission that targets for federal prosecution persons who unlawfully use or possess firearms.

This news release, as well as additional information about the office of the United States Attorney for the Western District of Missouri, is available on-line at

www.usdoj.gov/usao/mow